

*The Life of the Apostle Peter*  
Study # 25  
**The Sermon at Pentecost**  
(Part II: The Preaching About Jesus)  
(Acts 2:22-36)

**I. The Proclamation of Jesus:**

***A Condemnation (22-24)***

- A. Jesus - Approved by God (22A)**
- B. Jesus - Attested by Signs (22B; Mt. 26:55)**
- C. Jesus - Appointed to Die (23A; 13:29)**
- D. Jesus - Arrested by the Jews (23B)**
  - 1. Jewish Instigation (Acts 3:13; 4:10; 5:30)**
  - 2. Gentile Implementation (Is. 53:5-6; Lk. 22:21-22)**
- E. Jesus - Arisen by God's Power (24)**

**II. The Prophecy of Jesus:**

***A Confirmation (25-36)***

- A. DAVID'S PROPHECY: INSPIRATION (25-28)**
  - 1. He Rejoiced in God's Presence (25; Ps. 118:6)**
  - 2. He Rejoiced in God's Preservation (26-28; Heb. 12:2)**
- B. DAVID'S PROPHECY: INTERPRETATION (29-36)**
  - 1. Pointing to Christ's Resurrection (29-32)**
    - a. David's Death (29)**
    - b. David's Description (30A)**
    - c. David's Descendant (30B; Ps. 89:3-4)**
    - d. David's Declaration (31-32)**
      - 1) The Content of His Declaration (31)**
      - 2) The Confirmation of His Declaration (32)**
  - 2. Pointing to Christ's Exaltation (33-35)**
    - a. The Evidence of Pentecost (33)**
    - b. The Evidence of Prophecy (34-35; Phil. 2:5-11)**

**CONCLUSION (36):**

Five great proofs of the Resurrection:

- 1. The Prophecy of Psalm 16:8-11.
- 2. The Presence of David's Tomb.
- 3. The People Who Witnessed the Resurrection.
- 4. The Pouring Out of the Spirit at Pentecost.
- 5. The Position of the Exalted Christ.

**Peter's Shocking Proposal**

Peter presents the truth that Israel's long-awaited Messiah has come in the person of Jesus of Nazareth.

It is difficult for twentieth-century readers to appreciate how profoundly disturbing that claim was to the Jews. Messiah was the central figure in Jewish thought. Of Him God had revealed, The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be. (Gen. 49:10).

Of Him the psalmist warned, Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish from the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they that put their trust in him. (Ps. 2:12).

He was the great descendant of David, of whom God said, "I will stablish the throne of his kingdom forever" (2 Sam. 7:13; cf. Luke 1:31-33).

In light of that, for Peter to boldly proclaim Jesus of Nazareth as the Messiah had to both shock and outrage his listeners. After all, less than two months earlier they had executed Jesus for claiming to be the Messiah. Now his upstart followers were making that same claim on His behalf. To the Jewish mind, there could be no greater expression of blasphemy.

That same antipathy toward Jesus Christ persists in our own day. I'll never forget the time when, as a young man, I visited the office of a local rabbi. We had a pleasant discussion until I asked him what he thought of Jesus Christ. He brought his fist crashing down on his desk and glared at me. Pointing his finger at me he said vehemently, "Don't ever mention that name in my presence again!"

For Peter to proclaim Jesus as Israel's Messiah was to raise the most dynamic, powerful and forceful issue possible. By so doing, Peter showed a boldness and courage that he had previously lacked. That is once again evidence of the transforming power of Pentecost in his life. —MacArthur New Testament Commentary

**Word Studies**

Acts 2:22

**approved** Gk., *apodedeigmenon*. To accredit; to approve; to endorse; to point out; to display; to show; to attest; to sanction; to certify. Practical Application: God put His stamp of approval upon Jesus. He demonstrated and showed all men that Jesus is perfectly acceptable to Him. Jesus of Nazareth had God's approval, His perfect acceptance. (PWSNT)

**miracles** - *dunamis*.. Mighty power.

**wonder** - *teras*. An omen, wonder, marvel.

**sign** - *semeion*. A supernatural token.